

# DAILY BULLETIN

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## BUSH SAYS U.S. SECURITY DEPENDS ON ADVANCING LIBERTY ABROAD

President's January 22 radio address to the nation .. 1

## AMB. NEGROPONTE SAYS ELECTIONS SHOW IRAQ'S PROGRESS TO DEMOCRACY

U.S. will work with whatever government emerges from the process ..... 2

## U.S. URGES "ALL HAZARD" APPROACH IN DISASTER MANAGEMENT

Tsunami early warning system must be adaptable to other crises ..... 4

## AID PROGRAMS, INITIATIVES HELP IMPROVE STATUS OF WOMEN

U.S. seeks to empower women in Middle East and around the world ..... 6

## BUSH SAYS U.S. SECURITY DEPENDS ON ADVANCING LIBERTY ABROAD

President's January 22 radio address to the nation

In his first radio address to the nation since his second inauguration, President Bush reiterated his belief that security in the United States increasingly depends on the success of liberty abroad.

Bush pledged that the United States will continue to lead the fight against terrorists abroad and will strive to keep the "world's most dangerous weapons out of the hands of terrorists and tyrants."

He also said the people of the United States stand by Afghanistan and Iraq as they build free and democratic societies in their own lands.

Following is a transcript of the president's address:

The White House  
<http://www.whitehouse.gov>  
January 22, 2005

President Bush's Radio Address to the Nation

The President: Good morning.

My fellow Americans, earlier this week I had the honor of taking, for the second time, the oath of office as your President. The inaugural ceremony is simple, yet its meaning is profound. Every four years, the American people hold an inauguration to reaffirm our faith

in liberty, and to celebrate the democratic institutions that preserve it. To place one's hand on the Bible and swear the oath is a humbling experience, and a reminder of the high trust and great responsibility that the presidency brings. With deep appreciation for your support, and mindful of the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead, I'm eager to begin the work of a new term.

In the years since I first swore to preserve, protect and defend our Constitution, our nation has been tested. Our enemies have found America more than equal to the task. In response to attacks on our home soil, we have captured or killed terrorists across the Earth. We have taken unprecedented steps to secure our homeland from future attacks, and our troops have liberated millions from oppression.

At home, thanks to pro-growth policies and the hard work of the American people, we overcame a recession and created over 2 million new jobs in the past year alone. Now we move forward. We remain in a war the United States will continue to lead -- fighting terrorists abroad, so we do not have to face them here at home. We will strive to keep the world's most dangerous weapons out of the hands of terrorists and tyrants. And our nation will stand by the peoples of Afghanistan and Iraq as they build free and democratic societies in their own lands -- because when America gives its word, America must keep its word.

As I stated in my inaugural address, our security at home increasingly depends on the success of liberty abroad. So we will continue to promote freedom, hope and democracy in the broader Middle East -- and by doing so, defeat the despair, hopelessness and resentments that feed terror.

At home, too, we will expand freedom. We will continue to bring high standards and accountability to our public schools, so that every child can learn. We will transform our retirement and health systems, reform the legal system and simplify the tax code, so that all Americans enjoy the dignity and independence that comes from ownership. In this ownership society, every citizen will have a real stake in the promise of America. And our most valued institutions will be better prepared to meet the new challenges of a new time.

This week, Washington has been marked by pomp and circumstance. In a free nation, these ceremonies are more than pageantry. They underscore that public office is a public trust. America's elected leaders derive their au-

thority from the consent of the American people, whom we serve. This is a high privilege, and that privilege carries a serious responsibility: to confront problems now, instead of passing them on to future generations.

As long as I hold this office, I promise that I will serve all Americans and will work to promote the unity of our great nation. And working together, we will secure the blessings of liberty, not only for ourselves, but for generations of Americans to come.

Thank you for listening.

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#### AMB. NEGROPONTE SAYS ELECTIONS SHOW IRAQ'S PROGRESS TO DEMOCRACY

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U.S. will work with whatever government emerges from the process

By Robert Fullerton

Washington File Special Correspondent

Washington -- The significance of the national elections scheduled for January 30 in Iraq is the fact that elections are taking place for the first time in years, that they will be free and fair, and that they are part "of a steady progression" toward democracy in the nation, says U.S. Ambassador to Iraq John D. Negroponte.

Speaking from Baghdad on several U.S. television news programs January 23, Negroponte discussed the upcoming Iraqi elections, in which 100 different parties and individuals will compete for 275 seats in Iraq's National General Assembly. The assembly will draft a constitution and elect a president, with a definitive government scheduled to be in place in Iraq by year's end.

While many people are focused on the election turnout and how the voting might be impacted by insurgents, Negroponte said on CBS's Face the Nation with Bob Schieffer that it is important that the event be judged as well "in terms of what it represents to the political life of this country."

"This is the first election that they've held. They're going to be moving from an appointed to an elected government. They're going to draft a constitution, which will then be passed on by a referendum next October, and then elections for a definitive government in December.

So this is a very important and exciting political process. And we detect a lot of interest and enthusiasm on the part of the people of Iraq for what lies ahead," he said.

The ambassador also made the following general points:

-- On election results, Negroponte said on ABC's This Week with George Stephanopoulos that the United States will work with whatever government "emerges from this electoral process." He said the United States is not backing any individual candidate for election to the assembly; the "most important element," he said on Fox News Sunday with Chris Wallace, "is the fact of the elections (themselves) and that they represent a major step on Iraq's march towards political freedom." He said four groups likely will garner many seats in the voting, but he expects no "monolithic" bloc to emerge and a "lot of horsetrading" to occur as the assembly goes about its work.

-- Regarding voter turnout, Negroponte said that it could be "quite large," though he again stressed that a final count should not be construed as "the arbiter of the legitimacy" of the election. "I would expect that we will see strong participation by Iraqi voters in the northern and southern parts of the country," he said on CBS. The "problematic area is in the center, particularly two predominantly Sunni provinces."

-- On voting security, he said that "elaborate plans" are in place by multinational forces and Iraqi armed forces throughout the country -- in districts large and small -- and that "no effort is being spared" to enable "as many people to vote as possible." He said on CBS that a high priority "is being devoted to security in ballot locations, not only in the Sunni Triangle, but throughout the country. So, I'm hopeful that quite a few people will vote, but we're just going to have to wait and see."

Negroponte said that threats by the terrorist Abu Musab al-Zarqawi to disrupt the election constitute all that his and other such terrorist groups have to offer in Iraq as they try "to prevent democracy from taking hold."

The ambassador challenged an assertion made by several interviewers that the number of attacks by insurgents is growing in Iraq, pointing out that the number of attacks is "roughly at the same level it was when I arrived here six months ago." What drives the insurgency, he said, is former members of Saddam Hussein's regime and others who feel threatened by and "want to block the democratic process" in Iraq.

Asked on ABC what the United States will do if at some point the government of Iraq determines that it no longer believes it needs multinational forces to provide security and asks them to leave, he said, "we will comply with that wish. That's made clear, actually, in Security Council Resolution 1546. It talks about the terms of reference timetable for those forces."

Meanwhile, he said, it is hard to put "a precise" timetable on a U.S. troop exit from Iraq. But he said "we share the same goal" with Iraq which is to withdraw coalition forces as soon as possible.

"What ought to drive this question is when can they (Iraqi armed forces and police) take charge" to bring about political stability to enable the pullout, he said.

Asked on Fox about the training and competency of those forces, he acknowledged they still have "a long way to go. But if you look at their performance in the past six months, I think you will see that there has been steady progress, but that "quite a lot of work remains to be done."

Regarding how many Iraqi forces are trained and in the field, the ambassador said on NBC's Meet the Press with Tim Russert that his benchmark is the number of Iraqi battalions available, "something on the order of 70 to 80 Iraqi battalions that are operational at the moment. And the evidence of this is that there are a number of cities and towns that were that were problematic previously, such as Najaf, Sadr City, Samarra, where previously there were no Iraqi forces available to deal with those situations. Today, you will find that Iraqi forces are there and in very good control of the situation."

Asked about a New York Times report that \$300 million was taken from the Bank of Iraq and put onto a chartered jet to Lebanon, Negroponte said "we're looking into these allegations," adding that "my understanding is that these are Iraqi monies that are involved, not U.S. government appropriated funds."

State Department transcripts of Negroponte's talk show appearances are available online at:

NBC's Meet the Press with Tim Russert: <http://www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2005/41124.htm>

CNN's Late Edition with Wolf Blitzer: <http://www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2005/41132.htm>

CBS's Face the Nation with Bob Schieffer: <http://www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2005/41129.htm>

ABC's This Week with George Stephanopoulos: <http://www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2005/41131.htm>

## U.S. URGES "ALL HAZARD" APPROACH IN DISASTER MANAGEMENT

Tsunami early warning system must be adaptable to other crises

The United States joins other nations in a commitment to rapid deployment of a tsunami early warning system in the aftermath of the Indian Ocean catastrophe, but it believes it must be a warning system that will provide protection from all kinds of natural and manmade disasters.

Ambassador Howard Baker, leading the U.S. delegation to the U.N. World Conference on Disaster Reduction under way in Kobe, Japan, said a tsunami warning system is dependent on a system of communications, warning and public education that also will serve to protect populations threatened by any natural or manmade disaster.

"We can't stress enough that monitoring and warning systems should be designed with the intent that they will, to the extent possible, serve to alert and inform at-risk populations about all major hazards in their area; integrating the entire system under an all-hazards approach," said Baker in remarks to the conference January 20. "This is the best way to save lives and money."

The United States supports expansion of the existing Pacific Ocean tsunami warning system into a global system watching all the world's waters, and doing so through the Group on Earth Observations. This 55-nation group, plus the European Commission, is committed to the creation of an integrated Global Earth Observations System of Systems (GEOSS) which aims to create a vast data-collection and condition-monitoring system providing more coordinated information about the planet than has ever before been available.

The text of the Baker remarks as prepared for delivery follow:

## U.S. Commitment to Develop a Global Tsunami Warning System

Ambassador Howard H. Baker, Jr.  
At the World Conference on Disaster Reduction  
Kobe, Japan  
Jan. 20, 2005  
(As prepared for delivery)

Mr. Chairman, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen:

This conference is about changing how the world reduces risk from hazards - both natural and technological - in order to prevent those risks from turning into disasters.

The President of the United States and the people of our nation are committed to strengthening the world's ability to meet these goals.

The very size of the recent tragedy in the Indian Ocean compels us to work together to turn this conference into a transformational event for the world, and to elevate disaster reduction to the same importance as matters of peace and war.

The United States feels that never again should lives be lost because a global tsunami warning system doesn't exist, and thus wishes to announce today a commitment to do whatever it takes, in partnership with others, to expand and enhance the existing Pacific Ocean tsunami warning system into a global system including the Indian Ocean, the Atlantic Ocean and Caribbean Sea to protect coasts and coastal areas from tsunami threats.

Those dramatic system expansions will be planned and implemented as a part of the Global Earth Observation System of Systems (GEOSS) being developed by the Group on Earth Observations.

The United States is strongly committed to the intergovernmental Group on Earth Observations and its efforts to achieve an integrated and sustainable Global Earth Observation System of Systems (GEOSS). Fifty-five nations and the European Commission have joined in the GEOSS initiative. The Third Earth Observation Summit will meet in Brussels on February 16 to formalize the status of the Group on Earth Observations and adopt its ten-year implementation plan.

We invite other nations to work with us on this common and urgent cause of saving lives. The United States be-

believes that a global tsunami early warning system should be an expansion of the existing system in the Pacific, which is coordinated by UNESCO's Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (the 'IOC') - a GEOSS partner. To make sure that this expansion happens without delay, the United States will propose that the development of a global tsunami warning system be a top near-term priority for the Group on Earth Observations when the Group meets in Brussels next month.

The United States will also continue to work with the G-8 to ensure high-level support for full implementation of the global tsunami warning system.

We urge other nations and relevant organizations that plan to upgrade earthquake or tsunami detection and warning systems to join the GEOSS process.

Additionally, the United States will work with international partners to develop and improve the system of communication, warning, and public education that serves to warn the threatened populations, and to ensure that such a system is suitable for many kinds of hazards and disasters, thus keeping us within the 'all-hazards' theme of this World Conference on Disaster Reduction.

Let me stress that an all-hazards philosophy - consideration of all potential natural and technological hazards - should permeate the plans to develop the tsunami warning system, and indeed be the basis of all national disaster management planning considered by this conference.

Let me also stress that a detection and monitoring system for tsunamis is necessary but not sufficient, by itself, to reduce a tsunami disaster. The technical systems for detecting and monitoring earthquakes, tsunamis or any other hazard must be complemented by an assessment of existing warning capabilities, training of local officials, installation of national and local warning communications systems, and a process of public education that will enable citizens in susceptible areas to respond appropriately to the warnings when they are issued.

We can't stress enough that monitoring and warning systems should be designed with the intent that they will, to the extent possible, serve to alert and inform at-risk populations about all major hazards in their area; integrating the entire system under an all-hazards approach. This is the best way to save lives and money.

Every village, sea port or nation at risk of tsunamis - or indeed any hazard - needs the ability to not only receive

timely warning information; but the training to know what to do when the warning arrives. Transparency, good governance, and capacity building will be critical to creating a functioning warning and response system in these nations and communities. The United States is committed to helping to meet this need, and will do so through the U.S. Agency for International Development, the lead U.S. agency for providing assistance in this type of international capacity development.

The United States believes that a nominal disaster reduction system for tsunamis (and, indeed, for all hazards) would include the following processes and characteristics:

**Risk Assessment:** Advance modeling of coastline communities determines hazard areas and risk probability. Susceptible areas can be targeted for hazard mitigation and warning.

**Detection:** Observations and monitoring detect sub-sea earthquakes or other geologic process and reliably indicate whether a tsunami has been generated.

**Warning:** A warning message is issued by the monitoring institutions via communications centers and received by national and local officials in threatened nations within minutes. The warning is quickly communicated to the local at-risk population via sirens, mass media, specialized radio systems, and other notification technologies.

**Response Plan:** A local response plan exists and is activated. This response plan must be developed well in advance and communicated to the public.

**Ready Public:** Public responds appropriately, having been prepared and educated in advance.

**Situational Awareness:** The hazard situation is monitored until the "all-clear" is sounded. Because tsunamis often consist of a series of waves, and because subsequent tsunamis may be generated by earthquake aftershocks, people should not enter the hazardous zone again until the hazard is truly over.

**Resilient Lifeline and Protective Infrastructure:** Hardened shelters, protective shelters, and reliable supply routes for emergency response, food and water supply, and medical evacuation should be constructed in accordance with international building codes appropriate for locations at risk of hazard events.

Mr. Chairman, in conclusion, let me say that the United States has a demonstrable record as a donor to humanitarian relief and as a world partner in sharing technology and information to save lives. Today we renew that commitment.

Once again, with this statement, my government and its people commit themselves to providing support and leadership to reduce disaster losses from hazards throughout the world through international partnerships that promote these processes and characteristics.

Let me say that the United States fully supports the "Common Statement of the Special Session" which the conference Secretariat has worked to prepare.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

#### AID PROGRAMS, INITIATIVES HELP IMPROVE STATUS OF WOMEN

U.S. seeks to empower women in Middle East and around the world

A fact sheet issued January 19 by the Office of the Senior Coordinator for International Women's Issues describes Department of State programs to improve the status of women in Afghanistan, Iraq and around the world.

Following is the text of the fact sheet:

Washington, D.C.  
January 19, 2005

##### U.S. International Women's Issues Initiatives

The United States is deeply committed to promoting global respect for women. Because the United States considers the rights and freedom of women to be fundamental human rights, the Bush administration has made the empowerment of women integral to U.S. foreign policy. The U.S. Government is helping women become full participants in their societies through various initiatives and programs that increase women's political and economic participation. Major U.S. initiatives include the following:

**Afghanistan -- Overview.** The U.S. commitment to accelerated success in rebuilding Afghanistan includes major women's components in the areas of political participation, economic opportunity, health, education, and overall reconstruction. Since the fall of the Taliban, the United States has implemented over 200 projects directly in support of Afghan women. Of the over 4.8 million children in school, nearly 40% are girls, by far the highest number in Afghan history. The U.S. is providing \$84 million to support Afghan elections to assist with the consolidation of this new democracy. Over 27% of seats in the Lower House of Parliament and almost 17% of seats in the Upper House are reserved for women. Women comprised over 40% of total voter turnout for the October 2004 presidential election.

Fact Sheet: <http://www.state.gov/g/wi/rls/37066.htm>.

**The U.S.-Afghan Women's Council (USAWC).** This innovative public-private partnership initiative links U.S. and Afghan governments, private sectors, and NGOs to practical projects benefiting women. Example: The Council is providing \$1 million and expert advice for literacy and job training programs in new Women's Resource Centers in over half of Afghanistan's provinces. The Council also supports microfinance programs to help women establish small businesses.

Fact Sheet: <http://www.state.gov/g/wi/rls/38726.htm>.

**Iraq.** The United States is supporting several major initiatives to ensure the integration of women's rights and opportunities into Iraq's reconstruction and transition to democracy. Example: Drawing from the \$27 million that Congress set aside for special programs targeted for Iraqi women, Secretary Powell established in March 2004 a \$10 million Iraqi Women's Democracy Initiative, along with a new public-private partnership, the U.S.-Iraq Women's Network. As a result of this Initiative, grantees are actively working in Iraq to assist women in political organization and participation, election preparation, coalition building, leadership training, entrepreneurship and media outreach.

Fact Sheet: <http://www.state.gov/g/wi/rls/36751.htm>.

Secretary Powell Statement: <http://www.state.gov/secretary/rm/36496.htm>.

**Middle East Partnership Initiative (MEPI).** This forward-looking program aimed at building partnerships and improving the lives of people throughout the Middle East,

with a total of \$218.5 million budgeted to date, pays particular attention to women in the region. MEPI includes a specific Women's Empowerment Pillar dedicated to reducing cultural, legal, regulatory, economic and political barriers to women's full participation in society. Examples: A Women and the Law workshop resulting in a regional association for women in the legal profession and a public legal education campaign on women's rights and equality; a regional "campaign school" for women candidates; and a new Middle East Entrepreneurs Training in the U.S. (MEET US) initiative.

Fact Sheet: <http://www.state.gov/g/wi/rls/35617.htm>.

MEPI Website: <http://mepi.state.gov/mepi/>.

**Poverty Reduction.** The Millennium Challenge Account (MCA), a major new U.S. development assistance program, will increase current levels of core assistance by 50 percent over the next 3 years, providing an annual increase of \$5 billion by fiscal year 2006. Countries will be selected to receive MCA assistance based on their performance in governing justly, investing in their citizens, and encouraging economic freedom. The treatment of women is a factor in determining each country's eligibility for funding. Girls' primary school completion rates are included in selection criteria for fiscal year 2005.

MCC website: <http://www.mca.gov/>

Press Release: [http://www.mca.gov/public\\_affairs/press\\_releases/FY05\\_Selection\\_Process.pdf](http://www.mca.gov/public_affairs/press_releases/FY05_Selection_Process.pdf).

**Economic and Microenterprise Development.** U.S. support for microenterprise development has exceeded \$150 million each year for the past 5 years. A large proportion of this assistance is provided for micro-credits, for which 70% of the clients are women.

Brochure: Women, Men and Development:

[http://www.usaid.gov/our\\_work/cross-cutting\\_programs/wid/pubs/usaidbook.pdf](http://www.usaid.gov/our_work/cross-cutting_programs/wid/pubs/usaidbook.pdf)

USAID Microenterprise Website:

[http://www.usaid.gov/our\\_work/economic\\_growth\\_and\\_trade/poverty\\_reduction/microenterprise\\_development.html](http://www.usaid.gov/our_work/economic_growth_and_trade/poverty_reduction/microenterprise_development.html).

**Political Participation.** The United States mobilized 110 co-sponsors at the 2003 UN General Assembly for a res-

olution promoting concrete actions to increase women's political participation around the world.

Text of Resolution: <http://www.state.gov/g/wi/rls/rep/28497.htm>.

**Trafficking in Persons.** President Bush is committed to eradicating the modern day slavery of human trafficking, which disproportionately threatens women. In FY 2003, the U.S. devoted nearly \$93.5 million to combat trafficking in persons worldwide. At the 2003 UN General Assembly, President Bush pledged an additional \$50 million to accelerate efforts to rescue women and children from labor and commercial sex exploitation. Furthermore, because of the vulnerability of women and children in post-disaster situations, the United States is working actively to prevent human trafficking in tsunami-impacted regions of Asia. We are engaging foreign governments, private organizations, and others working in the region to ensure that people are protected and that trafficking prevention is included all in disaster relief efforts.

Department of State Website: <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/>.

**HIV/AIDS.** The United States is committing \$15 billion over 5 years to combat HIV/AIDS, which increasingly poses a greater threat to women, particularly in the poorer nations of the world. In 2002, President Bush announced a new \$500 million International Mother and Child HIV Prevention Initiative that seeks to prevent the transmission of HIV/AIDS from mothers to infants and to improve health care delivery in Africa and the Caribbean. One key element in the U.S. efforts to reduce women's vulnerability to HIV/AIDS is to promote property rights for women. When women have control over their economic assets, they are better able to avoid risky sexual and abusive relationships.

Fact Sheet: President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief: <http://www.state.gov/s/gac/rl/fs/2004/29706.htm>.

**Women in Post-Conflict Situations.** The U.S. Government has been a strong supporter of UN Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace, and Security, which highlights the important role of women in helping their societies recover and rebuild after devastating civil conflict. U.S.-supported programs aimed at increasing women's access to education and strengthening their leadership, advocacy, political, and entrepreneurial skills help ensure that women are able to take their rightful place at the peace table and in society. Over the past four

years, the Department of State's Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration has funded the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) Women and War Project, which addresses the specific protection, health and assistance needs of women in situations of armed conflict. The program has now been successfully mainstreamed into ICRC's core protection activities. Department of State website:

<http://www.state.gov/g/wi/>.

Refugees. The majority of refugees and displaced persons today are women and children, and the U.S. Government provides major funding and technical support for their humanitarian, resettlement, and rehabilitation requirements. In FY 2004, the United States contributed \$2.3 million to gender-based violence prevention programs targeting refugee women.

Department of State website: <http://www.state.gov/g/prm/>.

International Cooperation. In the 10 years since the 1995 Beijing Conference on Women, the U.S. has made significant progress towards implementing many areas of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the Beijing+5 Political Declaration and Outcome Document. The U.S. submitted a response to the UN's "Questionnaire to Governments on Implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action and the Outcome of the Twenty-Third Special Session of the General Assembly (2000)," detailing domestic and international programs and initiatives in the areas of violence against women, poverty reduction, access to health care, economic opportunity and power-sharing.

Text of U.S. Response: <http://www.state.gov/p/io/rls/othr/35882.htm>.